

Tim W Hayes 06/24/2009 11:21:59 AM From DB/Inbox: Tim W Hayes

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Text:

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 00313
CXsofia:
 ACTION: POLEC
 INFO: POLM DCM AMB

DISSEMINATION: POLX
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: AMB:NMCELDOWNEY
DRAFTED: AMB:NMCELDOWNEY
CLEARED: DCM:AKARAGIANNIS

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6096

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 000313

FOR EUR/CE, NEA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/21/2019
TAGS: [ODIP](#) [PREL](#) [IR](#)
SUBJECT: BULGARIA: DECISION NOT TO INVITE IRAN TO JULY 4
RECEPTION

REF: STATE 60331 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: Ambassador Nancy McEldowney, Reasons 1/4(B) and (D)

(C) Bulgaria will conduct national elections on July 5 that are intended to produce a new parliament and a new government. The dominant issue in the campaign is corruption and dirty politics. There is a widespread expectation here that the elections will include vote buying and other forms of fraud. Given the controversy now underway in Iran over allegations of election fraud and the fact that our official reception will occur on the eve of the Bulgarian election, we believe that inviting an official Iranian representative to attend would send the wrong signal at this delicate moment.

McEldowney